

Life Expensive

THE cost of living still goes up, and trouble round us thickens, and yet when we dine or sup, we're portershouse or chickens. To make our walls have proper force we should be lean and scrawny, but we've the muscles of a horse, and we are fat and brawny. The portly man gets up and whoops about the cost of living, while to his form some costly gown a genial warmth is giving. The clubman wrings his hands and whines, the cost will make us vagrants, while to his breath imported wines impart a pungent fragrance. We should be hollow eyed and thin, our slats like washboards showing, if we'd denounce the men of sin who keep the prices going. But nearly all the kicking's done by fat and fussy sinners who have their pockets full of money, and swallow four-course dinners. I do not hear the tollier wail or breathe dire threats of slaughter, he eats his dinner from a pail, and helps it down with water; he and his children shed their woes, and warble "Yankee Doodle," and to the moving picture shows he takes the whole caboodle.

—WALT MASON.

Stepping Stones Of Our Dead Selves

AND THE YEAR drives on to the end, so that the three or four days remaining seem but a matter of hours. Nineteen fourteen is crowding us, and nobody is sorry to see the old year go, because the future holds so much in store that is even better than has gone before.

There is much to do in the year's round up. Business men are engaged in closing their annual records. Merchants are taking inventory and checking over the holiday figures. The day of the annual reckoning, with its inevitable comparisons, is at hand. Cost sheets and multicolored graphs are being drawn up. It is a time also of social and moral reckoning, and with some, religious. There is a general summing up, and a concentration of thought on the lessons of the past and the prospects and plans for the future.

When the din breaks loose next Wednesday night, and the wireless flash supplemented by cable and telegraph throughout the world announces the passing of the last midnight of 1913, the message of the bells will be one of hope and great promise, and men will look joyously for the dawn of the first day.

Some men try to scorn the sentiment of the newborn year; try to argue that nothing has happened, that one day is like another, that the sun shines the same, the hours flow the same, the nights bring the same exhaustion, the days the same cares, the weeks and months the same baffling problems, the same joys, the same disappointments, the same triumphs, as if the calendar leaf had not been torn away.

But in their hearts the cynics know it is not so—they know that in some mysterious way, working through the minds of men, there comes at midnight on December 31 a mighty change, when the trumpet call from on high announces the signal of the new "day of creation," and the great scroll is rolled up, turning a new clean page to the light, where men may write without being distracted by the disordered marks left in the records of a dead past.

Finished—irrevocable—but not irreparable. The stars still point the way, as they did of old.

Fire—Fire Out

IT GRATIFIES El Pasoans always to see the local fire department work. The department is modernly equipped, and horse drawn machines are fast being displaced by automobile apparatus; all new machines are of the auto type, which already so strongly dominates in the total equipment that the effect on the casual looker on is that of a full auto service. Only those machines remain in the horse drawn class which do not need a wide radius of instant action. Plenty of auto apparatus can now be concentrated in a few moments at any point in the city, to cope with any fire but the very largest—and it has often been said that no fire is very large when it starts.

The secret of success in preventing serious fires is to get into action in the briefest possible time after a fire starts. The department is now equipped to do this to perfection. But machinery is not all; it is only a minor part of the fire fighting organization. The main thing is the men, plus competent direction.

El Paso has a full paid fire department under experienced and competent heads. Fires in El Paso do not have to be fought in their early stages by subordinates. The chiefs are always on the scene with the first apparatus, and the fight is directed with forceful intelligence right from the lining out of the first hose. The El Paso fire department always acts on the wise assumption that every fire may "get beyond control" if it is not caught in the first moments.

One thing that is always noted at fires by home folk and visitors alike is the absence of confusion, noise, and excitement. One may pass within a few yards of a building where a serious fire is in progress and scarcely realize that there is anything unusual going on. There is no shouting and aimless running about; every man is in his place and quietly but persistently plugging away at the root of the trouble. Water is used sparingly, and the salvage is remarkably large.

The El Paso fire department is one that may profitably be studied as a model by less fortunate cities.

Awaiting the Master

BUT ONE MAN lives who can compose the musical epic of our great romantic west—Engelbert Humperdinck. Tchaikowsky was too somber. Grieg might have done it, but he is gone. The task requires sanity, imagination, reverence, tenderness; definite purpose; pure love of beauty; sympathy with the aspirations of the race, pity for its sacrifices; wide horizons, receptivity to impressions; sensitiveness, serenity, benevolence; a soul tuned to grandeur; a lively sense of humor; love of nature; mysticism, prophecy, courage—all in superlative degree.

Humperdinck has something of the humanity of Beethoven though without his universality, he has something of the originality of Wagner but with a lighter touch, and an art less esoteric; he belongs to this day, and if he knew what a wealth of inspiration there is in the American west, he would yearn for it.

The west, some day, will produce a really great opera and a really great symphony. No poem, no prose, no painting, no sculpture, can ever interpret it truly. Only in great music can it find a sentient, convincing, and inspiring voice, to convey its message to those who know not the spell and the love of it.

The west, it is true, already has its symphony; but it is that of the morning stars singing together just before the dawn, and few there be who can hear that song, or hearing, tell it forth to others.

The Elephant Butte dam will control, in lake B. M. Hall, the greatest water storage in the world for irrigation purposes, and the greatest water storage in the world for any purpose with the single exception of the lake at the summit of the Panama canal.

One-Sentence Philosophy

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.
(Chicago News.)
The more a man gets left the more he talks about his rights.
A woman's chattering teeth never usurp the functions of her tongue.
Labor is ennobling, but a lot of Americans are opposed to nobility.
Many a person with an eye for the beautiful has an ear for fifty cents.
When the wise dog goes out to kill sheep he leaves his bark at home.
Most of your troubles are silly troubles—that is, troubles that are unimportant.
If her husband isn't a paying proposition a woman is apt to consider marriage a failure.
A breach of promise suit is sure to demonstrate that some things are better left unwritten.
There may be such a thing as a man of very few words—but who ever heard of a woman like that?
Many a city man boasts of his boyhood on the farm—but he doesn't make a strenuous effort to get back to it.
A forty old bachelor says that eating onions will often prevent a mistake from coming on a woman's lip.
Probably most of us would be more thankful for the things we have if there were not so many other things we want.

QUAKER MEDITATIONS.
(Philadelphia Record.)
The honeymoon is frequently over before the last installment on the furniture is paid.
Outside of baseball the heaviest batter is to be found in the boarding house buckethead cake.
"Riches take unto themselves wings," quoted the Wise Guy. "Yes," agreed the Simple Mug, "a fiver in the stock market generally proves that."
"I always take day off on my birthday," remarked the youthful stenographer. "You'll take a couple of years off when you reach my age," replied the veteran.

GLOVE SIGHTS.
(Athens Globe.)
There should be some way of cooking knout without advertising it.
Obituary poetry makes an editor feel worse than the bereaved relatives.
Shoes to fit the feet are mostly old shoes, if we may judge by our own limited experience.
After a youth gets out of college, he ceases to care so much for glory that doesn't pay dividends.
While the clock of living grows higher, you haven't noticed the undertakers offering any real bargains.

Revolutionize Rug Trade

From a Gamble the Marketing of Oriental Rugs Has Been Converted Into Scientific Business.
By F. W. Haskin.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 27.—No other trade in the world has been so completely revolutionized within the last decade as the oriental rug trade. The American trade in oriental rugs was comparatively a gamble even 10 years ago. Not one dealer in 10 knew what value he would place on a bale of rugs. They were sold for whatever sums they would bring. Sometimes the dealers received multiplied profits. Occasionally rare rugs sold for really less than their value.

Under the old method, a rug buyer would go to an oriental village and pay the lowest possible price for a bale of rugs. He would ship the bale unopened into this country. Frequently it would contain old carpets and shoes as well as rugs, but in the heterogeneous collection one or two rugs of real value might be found. The others were sold for whatever prices they would bring. Now practically all oriental rugs are made and sold by the square foot. The price is set by the quality of the material and the skill of the weaver. The rug commissions in Constantinople and other oriental ports decide about the grade and fix the price. Consequently, the American interior who has a few rugs made by the women in his own home can be just as sure of receiving their full value now as the American dealer who brings his eggs into a city market. So far as the weaver is concerned, the rug is sold by the square foot, and the material of which the rug is made is sold by the pound.

Name Indicates Home Town.
The name of a rug has nothing to do with its quality. It indicates the village in which it was made. The rug in which it came to market. Some Americans buy oriental rugs as foolishly as many orientals purchase rugs. They are not interested in the quality of the material, but in the name. They are willing to pay a high price for a rug bearing that name. It is ignorant of the fact that some of the poorest rugs upon the market also come from Kermanshah.

The antique oriental rug is practically a myth so far as the present American market is concerned. Few real antique rugs have been brought to this country. The rugs that are sold are the work of modern weavers. The European cities have practically secured the bulk of the antique rugs of the world before the taste for them had been developed in America. Occasionally a rug buyer will run across one or two antiques but they are seldom placed upon the American market. Consequently, most of the antique rugs offered for sale in this country are fakes which have been used in some process that is likely to lessen their worth.

Modern Rug Equals Antique.
The modern oriental rug when properly made is equal to the antique in most purposes as the antique. It lacks the romance of antique history, but in coloring, appearance, and durability it is as good. The demand for oriental rugs has led to many adulterated practices in their manufacture, but in coloring, appearance, and durability it is as good. The demand for oriental rugs has led to many adulterated practices in their manufacture, but in coloring, appearance, and durability it is as good.

Imports Are \$5,000,000 Annually.
The oriental rug trade in this country is valued at \$5,000,000 annually. The rugs are being brought into this country annually, so that America is fully making up for her earlier lack of interest in these productions. The rugs are owned by museums and private individuals. Among the prominent American rug collectors are W. A. Clark, of New York; F. W. Haskin, of Pittsburgh; and A. T. Sinclair, of Massachusetts. The late J. Pierpont Morgan had one of the most valuable private collections in the world. The rugs collected by the late Benjamin Altman of New York also included some of the finest.

It has been recently discovered that the demand for oriental rugs has led to the manufacture of cheap rugs in factories in the orient. These factories have been erected by rug agents who prove heartless task masters to the helpless rug weavers. In some towns in Armenia and other countries little girls ranging from four years of age to 12 are employed from sunrise to sunset under most unhygienic conditions for from two to 20 cents a day. In many of these factories contagious diseases are rampant, and there are many precautions. Tuberculosis and other maladies are unchecked. Reports of these rug factory conditions have led the American government to issue health service to issue stringent regulations regarding the disinfecting of rugs known to come from such factories.

Colors Show Rug's Origin.
Each of the eastern nations has its favorite color. Persia is famous for greens and yellows, Turkey for red and Armenia for blue. The rugs from these countries indicate these preferences. The Turks regard green as a sacred color, not to be trodden under foot. The Turkish rug maker, therefore, only uses this in his prayer rugs. Weavers choose colors according to their significance so that every rug is a poem which only the initiated can read. Within a realm of color, the Chinese and the Indian Mohammedans. Blue to the Persians means life and to the Chinese means authority and power. Black denotes sorrow and evil. Red signifies joy, happiness, life, truth, and the yellow of the Chinese. Orange stands for sorrow to the Buddhist and Mohammedan, while red symbolizes divine wisdom. It takes an expert to tell the difference between aniline dyes and the vegetable dyes used in the Orient. The aniline dyes are made by which they draw over the surface of the rug so that the colors are reflected in them. If aniline dyes they are said to have a cloudy appearance, if colored with vegetable dyes they have clear, wavy outlines.

The designs in rugs are also significant and the ability to read them greatly enhances the value to the owner. Arabic figures and characters are sometimes employed to give quotations from the Koran or other sacred literature. The Turks do not weave figures of animals, birds or human beings into their rugs. They believe that such might lead to idolatry. They do not desire to make their rugs symmetrical. The fact that only Allah is perfect.

Silk Rugs Are Priceless.
The silk rug is not a strictly oriental

The Prairies

BY GEORGE FITCH.
Author of "At Good Old Swash."

MUCH of the United States is grand and peculiar, stretching out as far as the eye can see. The climate is spotless. Still more of our beloved country, however, is flat and uninteresting except at harvest time. A section of the United States which has been called the "breadbasket" of the world is called a prairie.

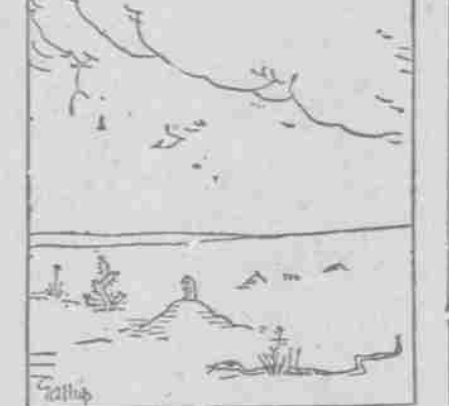
The great prairie begins at the Missouri river and rolls gently westward towards the Gulf of Mexico. It is not enough to scare said sun off of its nest. When discovered, these prairies were profusely covered with air, climate, sunshine and horizon, but were otherwise as empty as a new flat before the van from the installment furniture house rolls around. The eye could wander in all directions without stumbling over any object more prominent than a prairie dog mound, and one might travel a week without finding enough timber to cut a fish pole. However, this lack is thoughtfully palliated by the great scarcity of streams in which to fish.

Originally the prairie was upholstered with long waving grass and had to be cleared away for the old fashioned prairie and has wandered several hundred miles in irregular circles without finding a lunch counter, or, in the end, a good meal. The prairie is a vast expanse of the most perfect of the prairie, and it was luxuriantly provided with all three. More wine passed than could be drunk in the prairie in twenty-four hours than a neat actor from New York could emit in a Broadway speech.

When man came roughly westward, elbowing his way through the primeval solitude, he took the prairies in hand and altered them a good deal. First he cleared off the justly celebrated American blain and the equally famous Indian, both of which were highly prized by the pioneer. Then he broke up the hard, tough wind of prairie sod

with 20 oxen power plows. Then he planted windbreaks, sod houses, windmills, cyclone cellars, grain elevators, district schools, political machines, and other necessities of modern life. Now, the prairies have quit loafing and blowing, and have gone to work. They value the wheat and corn for half a nation, raise forests and statesmen, and bear the automobiles of a hundred thousand farmers on their smooth, flat backs.

The prairie is no longer a wild.



"A section of the United States which has only two dimensions—length and breadth."

free thing. Even its climate has been changed and its supply of wind cut down 75 per cent. It is bound up in barbed wire, railroads and telephones, and man has begun to attack sky-scrapers into its quivering flanks. No one would give the old fashioned prairie, however. It was as grand as the boundless ocean; as inconvenient to have in the middle of one's business (Articles by this noted writer are regular features of The El Paso Herald.)

14 Years Ago Today
From The Herald This Date 1900.

George H. Henderson is in the city. Miss May Demler, of Las Cruces, is in the city.

A marriage license was issued yesterday to Marshall Dougherty and Miss Emma Reed.

Miss Vivette Davis, a student at Mesilla college, is spending her vacation in El Paso.

W. F. Weber, night watchman on the G. H. R., is suffering from rheumatism and is taking a layoff.

J. A. Baird, who has been visiting in North Carolina for some time, returned home yesterday.

A building permit was granted today to F. C. Gilling to build a \$100 adobe house on Campbell street.

Superintendent W. R. Martin, of the G. H. R., went west this morning to look over the new pump equipment.

George C. Reed, a government surveyor, has returned from a two weeks' stay in the White Oaks country.

A new development of the oriental rug trade is the filling of special orders. A first class dealer in oriental rugs will undertake to supply rugs of any color, size, and design, and at a desired coloring or design. He will submit water color drawings of design and the order will be transmitted to the orient and filled within a few months. The manufacture of oriental type rugs in this country cannot be a success because of the higher cost of labor and the difference in living conditions. The rugs can only be made by hand under circumstances which render them of small value. A few weavers from the orient have been brought to this country but they are practically all engaged in repair work.

While few real antique rugs are now offered for sale, a large number of rugs of the modern type are being marketed. After a girl in the will the motion pictures be used in class work; in commercial geography, to describe industrial conditions, to explain food analysis and the proper preparation of food, but motion picture outfits. Thus, by the use of the moving picture machine will do its part in the class work every day, and one night each week the large auditorium will be given free of charge to the students. This particular part of the program is aimed to help in making the high school a genuine social center.

The opening of the schools for social centers was approved by the citizens of Des Moines in a recent election, and to their part the high school students, by voluntary contributions, made up the money to purchase a complete motion picture outfit. Thus, by the co-operation of the students and the local authorities, this new form of literature is being introduced into an American high school.

(Articles by this noted writer are regular features of The El Paso Herald.)

"This Is My Birthday Anniversary"

THE days are growing longer now, and though it takes a good deal of imagination to see any difference, the very knowledge of this fact makes us look towards spring with joy at the thought of its delights. And this is the way of all life. We make mistakes and we gather courage to go on by the thought that we are starting out new again and that the next time we come up to this particular situation we will do better. There would be no advancement unless this was so.

Today's birthday list is as follows:

Clayton Lane, 8.
Mabel Kileless, 14.
Lorena E. Pratt, 14.
Lowell Frampton, 8.
Ella Narzinsky, 15.

A ticket admitting two to the Unique theater awaits each one of the above named boys and girls at The Herald office. Call on "Miss Birthday."

The Two Sisters

By Virginia Terhune Van De Water.

CHAPTER 22.

IT would be hard to say which looked the more embarrassed at the invitation to luncheon had been given—Kelsey Delaine or Julia Marvin. The men saw that the girl was unpleasantly surprised. She could not know how he had longed to meet her. To her he was simply a writer who had employed her sister as his stenographer. Yet something made her feel that he was a gentleman and it was with an effort that she forced herself to appreciate that, after all, he was a person of whom she knew nothing.

His manner gave her confidence, and she was almost certain that he was a man whom one could trust. But the situation was too unconventional for her to approve of it. All the while that these thoughts were passing through Julia Marvin's mind the saleswoman at her counter was watching her curiously. This knowledge made her flush uncomfortably.

"Thank you, Mr. Delaine," she said, somewhat stiffly, "but you must excuse me. I cannot accept your invitation."

"Why not?" asked the man bluntly. "Because," said the girl, "I am not in the habit of lunching with strangers. I do not mean to be unkind, but as I am paid to attend to my work at this counter I have no right to stand here talking to you. Besides, I am dropping her voice and glancing uneasily at the other girls—this kind of an interview attracts disagreeable comment."

It was the man's turn to flush now. "I beg your pardon," he exclaimed. "I have been very thoughtless, and I am properly rebuked." He hesitated, then added, "I will get your address from your sister—if you don't mind. Good morning."

Without waiting for her reply, he lifted his hat and walked rapidly away, while Julia began with ostentatious hands to put away the faces that she had been arranging before Delaine came. He had only been with her for three or four minutes, and yet she felt that she would like to think over. But this was not the time nor the place for such thoughts.

George C. Reed, a government surveyor, has returned from a two weeks' stay in the White Oaks country. A new development of the oriental rug trade is the filling of special orders. A first class dealer in oriental rugs will undertake to supply rugs of any color, size, and design, and at a desired coloring or design. He will submit water color drawings of design and the order will be transmitted to the orient and filled within a few months. The manufacture of oriental type rugs in this country cannot be a success because of the higher cost of labor and the difference in living conditions. The rugs can only be made by hand under circumstances which render them of small value. A few weavers from the orient have been brought to this country but they are practically all engaged in repair work.

While few real antique rugs are now offered for sale, a large number of rugs of the modern type are being marketed. After a girl in the will the motion pictures be used in class work; in commercial geography, to describe industrial conditions, to explain food analysis and the proper preparation of food, but motion picture outfits. Thus, by the use of the moving picture machine will do its part in the class work every day, and one night each week the large auditorium will be given free of charge to the students. This particular part of the program is aimed to help in making the high school a genuine social center.

The opening of the schools for social centers was approved by the citizens of Des Moines in a recent election, and to their part the high school students, by voluntary contributions, made up the money to purchase a complete motion picture outfit. Thus, by the co-operation of the students and the local authorities, this new form of literature is being introduced into an American high school.

(Articles by this noted writer are regular features of The El Paso Herald.)

(Articles by this noted writer are regular features of The El Paso Herald.)

(Articles by this noted writer are regular features of The El Paso Herald.)

(Articles by this noted writer are regular features of The El Paso Herald.)

(Articles by this noted writer are regular features of The El Paso Herald.)

(Articles by this noted writer are regular features of The El Paso Herald.)

(Articles by this noted writer are regular features of The El Paso Herald.)

(Articles by this noted writer are regular features of The El Paso Herald.)

(Articles by this noted writer are regular features of The El Paso Herald.)

(Articles by this noted writer are regular features of The El Paso Herald.)

(Articles by this noted writer are regular features of The El Paso Herald.)

(Articles by this noted writer are regular features of The El Paso Herald.)

(Articles by this noted writer are regular features of The El Paso Herald.)

Call It Christmas Spasm

Rev. C. L. Overstreet Says He Might Describe It as Overdoing a Good Thing; Little Interviews.

SUNDAY night I intend to preach a sermon on "The Christmas Spasm," said Rev. C. L. Overstreet, of the First Presbyterian church. "I might add a sub-title and call it 'overdoing a good thing.' People are too much inclined to confine their Christian spirit to Christmas day. When Christmas comes they get very generous, give liberally and with the right spirit. But when Christmas is over and almost before the paper tissues have burned and the Christmas ribbon picked up, they pull back in their shells, take on board their grinch and go through the year that way. My advice is to spread the Christmas spirit over the entire year and call it the Christmas spirit."

"If the Mexican federales will place their machine guns and machine pistols in the hands of the rebel army could reach Ojinaga," said C. G. Jones, who was a gunner for the Madristas at Ojinaga. "I have seen a picture of a book and I know what it would mean to attempt to march an army through the Mexican pass with the pass properly defended."

"We had an experience with La Mula pass during the Mexican revolution when our men were defeated and we were ordered to evacuate Ojinaga because the federales had held the pass. I have seen a picture of a book and I know what it would mean to attempt to march an army through the Mexican pass with the pass properly defended."

Deputy constable J. W. Brown held a squatter's writ for a plane in his hand. He was and he sighed. "It was Christmas," he said. "I was a writ," said the constable, "sitting shaking his head. 'For a woman's plane and also a squatter's writ. I have seen a picture of a book and I know what it would mean to attempt to march an army through the Mexican pass with the pass properly defended.'"

"I have seen a picture of a book and I know what it would mean to attempt to march an army through the Mexican pass with the pass properly defended."

"I have seen a picture of a book and I know what it would mean to attempt to march an army through the Mexican pass with the pass properly defended."

"I have seen a picture of a book and I know what it would mean to attempt to march an army through the Mexican pass with the pass properly defended."

"I have seen a picture of a book and I know what it would mean to attempt to march an army through the Mexican pass with the pass properly defended."

"I have seen a picture of a book and I know what it would mean to attempt to march an army through the Mexican pass with the pass properly defended."

"I have seen a picture of a book and I know what it would mean to attempt to march an army through the Mexican pass with the pass properly defended."

"I have seen a picture of a book and I know what it would mean to attempt to march an army through the Mexican pass with the pass properly defended."

"I have seen a picture of a book and I know what it would mean to attempt to march an army through the Mexican pass with the pass properly defended."

"I have seen a picture of a book and I know what it would mean to attempt to march an army through the Mexican pass with the pass properly defended."

"I have seen a picture of a book and I know what it would mean to attempt to march an army through the Mexican pass with the pass properly defended."

"I have seen a picture of a book and I know what it would mean to attempt to march an army through the Mexican pass with the pass properly defended."

"I have seen a picture of a book and I know what it would mean to attempt to march an army through the Mexican pass with the pass properly defended."

"I have seen a picture of a book and I know what it would mean to attempt to march an army through the Mexican pass with the pass properly defended."

"I have seen a picture of a book and I know what it would mean to attempt to march an army through the Mexican pass with the pass properly defended."

"I have seen a picture of a book and I know what it would mean to attempt to march an army through the Mexican pass with the pass properly defended."

"I have seen a picture of a book and I know what it would mean to attempt to march an army through the Mexican pass with the pass properly defended."

"I have seen a picture of a book and I know what it would mean to attempt to march an army through the Mexican pass with the pass properly defended."

"I have seen a picture of a book and I know what it would mean to attempt to march an army through the Mexican pass with the pass properly defended."